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DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR
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RDS ☐ or XDS ☐ EXT. DATE
TS AUTH. REASON(S)
EXCISE EXISTING MARKINGS ☐
DECLASSIFIED, RELEASABLE ☑
RELEASE DENIED ☐
PA or FOI EXEMPTIONS

1. COMPLETE TEXTS OF SEPT 12 VC AND HANOI RADIOS COMMENTARIES ON ELECTION RESULTS ADD FOLLOWING POINTS TO THOSE MENTIONED IN REFTEL.

A. VC DESCRIBED ITS ANTI-ELECTION CAMPAIGN AS GREAT SUCCESS CLAIMING THAT VC MILITARY UNITS CARRIED

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OUT INTENSIVE ACTIVITIES AGAINST ELECTIONS. ELECTION RESULTS ARE DISMISSED AS IMAGINARY.

B. VC FRONT REASSERTED NOTION THAT IT IS THE ONLY GENUINE REPRESENTATIVE OF SVN PEOPLE AND THAT GVN IS ILLEGAL. THEREFORE, CONSTITUENT ASSEMBLY IS MEANINGLESS.

C. VC PLEDGED ITS DETERMINATION TO CONTINUE STRUGGLE ALONG PATH OF PROTRACTED WAR UNTIL VICTORY AND WILL IN PROCESS THWART EXPECTED US/GVN "WICKED PLOTS," OF WHICH CONSTITUENT ASSEMBLY IS ONE.

D. HANOI'S BROADCAST DEALT CHIEFLY WITH EXPOSING "FRAUDULENT" RESULTS BY CITING WESTERN NEWS AGENCY DISPATCHES TO SUPPORT VIEWS. CONSTITUENT

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ASSEMBLY WAS DENOUNCED AS "MONSTER" HOLDING NO PROMISE OR HOPE OF SUCCESS. HANOI CLAIMED THAT VC WILL UNSWERVINGLY AND PATIENTLY FOLLOW STRUGGLE OBJECTIVES AND THAT FUTURE OF SVN CAN ONLY BE DECIDED BY VC/FRONT'S PLATFORM.

2. COMMENT: VIET CONG AND HANOI MADE, IN OUR OPINION, SERIOUS TACTICAL ERROR IN DECIDING TO OPPOSE ELECTIONS

PAGE THREE RUMJIR 5956 C O N F I D E N T I A L
BY FORCE RATHER THAN TO IGNORE OR PASSIVELY DISCREDIT THEM. VC'S ACTIVE OPPOSITION TACTIC CONVINCINGLY FAILED AND REVEALED WEAKNESS OF VIET CONG EXCEPT IN AREAS UNDER VC MILITARY CONTROL. AS RESULT, VIET CONG EMERGED FROM ELECTIONS BADLY SINGED POLITICALLY AND HANOI AND "LIBERATION" RADIOS ARE NOW LEFT LAMELY NOT ONLY TRYING TO DESCREDIT ELECTIONS, BUT ALSO HAVING TO DEFEND POOR VC SHOWING IN SABOTAGE EFFORTS. IT IS NOT LOST ON AVERAGE VIETNAMESE THAT VC FAILURE SHOWS NOT ONLY MILITARY WEAKNESS, BUT ALSO REVEALS LACK OF POLITICAL AUTHORITY WHICH IN LONG RUN COULD BE FAR MORE SERIOUS TO VC CAUSE. LODGE.
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